



## **News Release**

Public Affairs Office PO Box 1306 Albuquerque, NM 87103 505/248-6911 505/248-6915 (Fax)

## Southwest Region (Arizona • New Mexico • Oklahoma •Texas) http://southwest.fws.gov

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 28, 2015

Contact: Jeannine Kimble 505/864-4021 X 106,

Beth Ullenberg, 505/248-6638, beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov

## Refuge Improvements Bring Temporary Closure of Wetland Public Use Area

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge was recently awarded a competitive grant through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Cooperative Recovery Initiative. This Initiative provides funding to national wildlife refuges to assist in the recovery of federally threatened or endangered species. This grant will allow for improvements to approximately 60 acres of wetlands and riparian habitat for a variety of endangered species and other wildlife. To complete the work, Wetland Units A & B are closed for the next several months to public access and all recreational activities including hunting and wildlife observation. The closure is to ensure public safety and is expected to last through the 2015/2016 hunting season. In addition to habitat improvements, the Refuge will also improve hunting and wildlife observation opportunities.

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is located 50 miles south of Albuquerque and 25 miles north of Socorro. For more information about the temporary closure or Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, please visit our website <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/">http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/</a> or call 505/864-4021. Office hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.

For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <a href="www.fws.gov">www.fws.gov</a>. Connect with our Facebook page at <a href="www.facebook.com/usfws">www.facebook.com/usfws</a>, follow our tweets at <a href="www.twitter.com/usfwshq">www.twitter.com/usfwshq</a>, watch our YouTube Channel at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/usfwsq">http://www.youtube.com/usfws</a> and download photos from our Flickr page at <a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq">http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq</a>.